

Message Text

LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

PAGE 01 MEXICO 01793 280109Z

21

ACTION COA-01

INFO OCT-01 ARA-06 ISO-00 CG-00 DOTE-00 DLOS-03 OES-03

SS-15 CIAE-00 INR-07 NSAE-00 COME-00 EB-07 JUSE-00

L-02 /045 W

----- 086256

R 280015Z FEB 75

FM AMEMBASSY MEXICO

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 6435

INFO SECDEF WASHDC

DIA WASHDC

LIMITED OFFICIAL USE MEXICO 1793

E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: PLOS OCLR PBOR MX US

SUBJECT: INCIDENT IN MEXICAN TERRITORIAL WATERS INVOLVING
USCG CUTTER NOWELL.

REFS: A) MEXICO 8401 B) STATE 220139 C) MEXICO 8605

D) DAO MEXICO MSG 272030Z FEB 75.

SECDEF FOR OASD/ISA-IA

DIA ADMIN MSG FOR AH-7

1. AT ABOUT 10:00 AM (ALL TIMES LOCAL) FEB 23 US COAST
GUARD SEARCH AND RESCUE HEADQUARTERS IN NEW ORLEANS
NOTIFIED EMBASSY'S DAO DUTY OFFICER THAT FISHING VESSEL
WESTLAND WAS DISABLED WITH A NET IN ITS SCREW ABOUT
16 MILES EAST OF TAMPICO, MEXICO, AND DRIFTING TOWARD
SHORE. USCG CLASSIFIED SITUATION AS EMERGENCY AND ASKED
DAO DUTY OFFICER TO REQUEST MEXICAN NAVY ASSISTANCE.
MEXICAN NAVY DUTY OFFICER PROMISED THAT MINESWEEPER WOULD
BE SENT FROM TAMPICO.

2. AT ABOUT 01:45 FEB 24, MEXICAN NAVY INFORMED DAO THAT
LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

PAGE 02 MEXICO 01793 280109Z

MINESWEEPER HAD TO DISCONTINUE SEARCH DUE TO HIGH WINDS

AND SEAS. THIS RELAYED TO USCG.

3. AT 06:45 FEB 24 USC REQUESTED CLEARANCE FOR SEARCH AIRCRAFT TO ENTER MEXICAN AIRSPACE AND RECEIVED THIS ABOUT 2 HOURS LATER.

4. AT 09:15 DAO ADVISED MEXICAN NAVY OF USCG CUTTER NOWELL'S POSITION AND THAT IT GOING SOUTH TO JOIN SEARCH.

5. AT 11:00 NOWELL ADVISED USCG NEW ORLEANS THAT IT ORDERED TO HEAVE TO BY MEXICAN NAVY SHIP DM-02 AND NOT TO MOVE UNTIL INSTRUCTIONS ARRIVED FROM MEXICAN NAVAL HQ. ESTIMATED POSITION OF NOWELL, DM-02 AND WESTLAND WAS 2247N-9740W (ABOUT 5 MILES OFF COAST). PER USCG REQUEST, DAO REQUESTED MEXICAN NAVY TO RELEASE NOWELL AND TOW WESTLAND TO TAMPICO.

6. AT 12:00 DAO INFORMED USCG THAT MEXICAN NAVAL HQ HAD INSTRUCTED TO DM-02 TO COMPLY WITH BOTH REQUESTS ABOVE.

7. DAO REPORTS THAT MEXICAN NAVAL HQ COOPERATED FULLY THROUGHOUT INCIDENT AND BELIEVES INCIDENT CAUSED BY OVER ZEALOUS COMMANDER OF DM-02.

8. COMMENT: THIS INCIDENT DEMONSTRATES THE ZEAL OF THE MEXICAN NAVY IN PROTECTING THE INTEGRITY OF WHAT IT CONSIDERS MEXICO'S TERRITORIAL SEA. SITUATION WAS WELL HANDLED BY USCG VESSEL AND APPEARS NOT TO HAVE HAD ANY REPERCUSSIONS. HOWEVER, IT AGAIN DEMONSTRATES SENSITIVITY OF MEXICANS ON THE 12-MILE LIMIT (SEE REFTELS) AND POINT UP CONTINUING NEED FOR CLOSE LIAISON BETWEEN US UNITS OPERATING IN THE VICINITY OF MEXICAN WATERS AND THE EMBASSY'S DAO. JOVA

LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

NNN

Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptioning: X
Capture Date: 01 JAN 1994
Channel Indicators: n/a
Current Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Concepts: TERRITORIAL WATERS VIOLATIONS, FISHING BOATS, COAST GUARDS, NOWELL
Control Number: n/a
Copy: SINGLE
Draft Date: 28 FEB 1975
Decaption Date: 01 JAN 1960
Decaption Note:
Disposition Action: RELEASED
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Authority: GolinoFR
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment: 25 YEAR REVIEW
Disposition Date: 28 MAY 2004
Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
Disposition Remarks:
Document Number: 1975MEXICO01793
Document Source: CORE
Document Unique ID: 00
Drafter: n/a
Enclosure: n/a
Executive Order: N/A
Errors: N/A
Film Number: D750070-0596
From: MEXICO
Handling Restrictions: n/a
Image Path:
ISecure: 1
Legacy Key: link1975/newtext/t1975023/aaaaacgu.tel
Line Count: 94
Locator: TEXT ON-LINE, ON MICROFILM
Office: ACTION COA
Original Classification: LIMITED OFFICIAL USE
Original Handling Restrictions: n/a
Original Previous Classification: n/a
Original Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Page Count: 2
Previous Channel Indicators: n/a
Previous Classification: LIMITED OFFICIAL USE
Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Reference: 75 MEXICO 8401, 75 STATE 220139, 75 MEXICO 8605
Review Action: RELEASED, APPROVED
Review Authority: GolinoFR
Review Comment: n/a
Review Content Flags:
Review Date: 10 SEP 2003
Review Event:
Review Exemptions: n/a
Review History: RELEASED <10 SEP 2003 by BoyleJA>; APPROVED <11 SEP 2003 by GolinoFR>
Review Markings:

Margaret P. Grafeld
Declassified/Released
US Department of State
EO Systematic Review
05 JUL 2006

Review Media Identifier:
Review Referrals: n/a
Review Release Date: n/a
Review Release Event: n/a
Review Transfer Date:
Review Withdrawn Fields: n/a
Secure: OPEN
Status: NATIVE
Subject: INCIDENT IN MEXICAN TERRITORIAL WATERS INVOLVING USCG CUTTER NOWELL.
TAGS: PLOS, OCLR, PBOR, MX, US
To: STATE
Type: TE
Markings: Margaret P. Grafeld Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 05 JUL 2006